



## Let's celebrate!: Ten years of IRI THESys

Humboldt-Universität has a birthday boy this year: the IRI THESys is celebrating its tenth anniversary. Reason enough to take a closer look at this interdisciplinary "transformation hub" in a series over the course of the year. Because what exactly do they do there? The acronym "IRI THESys" stands for "Integrative Research Institute on Transformations of Human-Environment Systems". So it's all about the reciprocal relationships between humans and the environment(s) and the major changes that are resulting for our planet. The series begins with Christoph Schneider. The Vice-President for Research is also a member of IRI THESys and sends a birthday greeting.

[Read the birthday greeting of the Vice-President for Research](#)

[Learn more about the IRI THESys](#)

## Out of turn

### Save the date: Humboldt Teaching Day takes place on 26 April

26 April is a dies academicus. All Humboldtians who are interested in teaching and its further development at the HU are invited to take part in the Humboldt Teaching Day in hybrid format. This time, the focus is on the teaching mission statement, which has been in the making since the beginning of the year as part of a broad participation process. Niels Pinkwart, Vice-President for Academic affairs, will open the Teaching Day at 12:30 pm together with participants in the mission statement process. This will be followed by decentralised events where subject-specific discussions can take place. The highlight of the day will be the awarding of the Prize for Good Teaching 2022. Wolfgang Deicke, director of the bologna lab, gives an outlook on the day in an interview.

[Read the interview with Wolfgang Deicke](#)

[Go to the programme of the Teaching Day](#)

## Research & Teaching

### Object of the Month: An Indian Tablā (dāyām) in the Lautarchiv

Christopher Li, head of the Lautarchiv's collection, takes readers to a special exhibit: an Indian tabla, a drum. Who played it and how did it get into the Lautarchiv in the first place? Is it in the right place? There are no clear answers to these questions, but Li has researched and thought about how it could have been. The core holdings of the Lautarchiv are audio recordings of prisoners of war from the First World War and the collection of German dialects from the 1920s and 1930s.

[Read object of the month](#)

### Portrait: For a (digital) coffee with... Claudia Becker

"Proposing an agenda would be the wrong approach. I assume that the institutes are functioning well," says Claudia Becker, the new dean of the Faculty of Cultural, Social and Educational Sciences. She wants to distribute the resources for the academic staff and around 11,000 students in 55 degree programmes fairly in a communicative process. Despite heading the largest HU deanery, the professor of sign language and audio education continues to focus on her research and will continue to lead two collaborative projects.

[Read portrait about Claudia Becker](#)

### Law: Failed exams will still be considered as not taken in the winter semester 2022/2023

Recently, the Berlin House of Representatives passed the "Third Law to Mitigate the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Energy Crisis in the Area of Higher Education Law", which, among other things, extends the regulation of § 126b BerlHG to the winter semester 2022/2023, according to which failed examinations are considered as not having been taken. Humboldt-Universität is implementing this regulation immediately, even though the law has not yet been published.

[Read the article on the intranet](#)

### Register by 14 April: Circle U. Seminar "Climate Change and Water"

Circle U.'s Climate Hub invites researchers of all career levels from across the Alliance to participate in the seminar on "Climate Change and Water" on 6 and 7 June. Participants will be able to present their research and network with colleagues from European partner universities. The seminar aims to highlight overlaps between different disciplines in order to develop a more holistic understanding of the topic. Another goal is to establish a common research agenda on climate change and water within Circle U. The application deadline is 14 April.

[Go to programme and application form](#)

### Humboldt Prize: Submission deadline for outstanding theses is 1 July

All deans of the HU are invited to nominate students and junior researchers for the Humboldt Prize, which is awarded annually in recognition of outstanding academic work. The deadline for submissions is 1 July. Only one nomination per category (Bachelor's thesis, Master's thesis, dissertation) is permitted per institute or monofaculty.

[Nominate for the Humboldt Prize](#)

### Until 15 May: Nominate doctoral candidates for the Tiburtius Prize

Every year, the State Conference of Rectors and Presidents of Berlin's universities awards three prizes and three additional recognition prizes to doctoral students at Berlin's universities for outstanding dissertations. The deadline for submissions is 15 May.

[Nominate for the Tiburtius Prize](#)

### From 17 April: Apply for the Berlin-Brandenburg Innovation Award

The Berlin Brandenburg Innovation Award is awarded annually in recognition of outstanding innovations and the actors behind them. The prize is awarded for innovations of all kinds that meet high standards and have good to very good prospects of market success. The application period begins on 17 April and ends on 3 July.

[Learn more about the Innovation Award](#)

## Administration & Service

### Health: Poster show and action days from 12 April

The Higher Education Management (HGM) asked in the online survey "Are you doing well at HU?" employees in summer 2022 about working conditions, health situation and health behaviour. The results are now available and can be seen in a poster exhibition in the foyer of the main building from 12 to 28 April. The HGM also invites you to action days on 18 and 25 April from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., also in the foyer. Accompanied by free measurements and snacks, anyone interested can talk to the HGM team about the survey results and their concerns in the field of health promotion.

[View survey results](#)

### Research funding: new rules for start-up and co-financing of large third-party funded projects

New regulations for internal research funding at Humboldt-Universität will come into force in the summer semester of 2023. In a process of coordination between the Commission for Research and Academic Careers, the deans' offices of the faculties and the Service Centre for Research, the rules for start-up funding of major third-party funding proposals were revised and standardised. The new regulations also provide for research awards for new R3 groups and ERC grants and define the possible uses of start-up and co-financing funds.

[Read article on intranet](#)

### Register: Sports courses start on 17 April

The days are getting longer again, the summer semester is approaching and with it the new offers of university sports, which can be booked now. The programme includes many highlights such as Muay Thai, Floorball and Padel Tennis as well as the excursion Mountain Hiking. The extensive range of water sports on offer at the Schmöckwitz Water Sports Centre and a variety of courses in Adlershof offer variety at every location. All courses start on 17 April. The University Sports Centre also invites you to various events in the summer: On 26 June there will be a conference on "Dual careers in top-class sport", on 24 June there will be a family day at the Schmöckwitz aquatic sports centre, on 7 July a Dance Night is planned and from 17 to 21 July there will be a children's aquatic sports week.

[The sports programme at a glance](#)

## Berlin University Alliance

### Apply by 30 April: Award for Promoting Quality in Research

The "Einstein Foundation Award for Promoting Quality in Research" is awarded annually by the Einstein Foundation Berlin and the Damp Foundation. The award is intended to honour and make visible efforts to improve the quality of research in the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities. The award is presented in three categories and carries prize money of up to 200,000 euros. Nominations and applications are open until 30 April.

[Learn more about the award](#)

### Apply now: Fellowship for science support workers

BUA's Objective 3 awards the Advancing Research Quality and Value Fellowship grants in two funding lines: Incoming and Outgoing Fellows. The fellowships are aimed at researchers and staff from the science-support sectors who deal with the topics of research quality and open science in their daily work. Applications for the 2023 programme are now open.

[Detailed information on the application process](#)

## Personalia

### Success: Two ERC Advanced Grants for HU research projects

Jan Plefka, professor at the Institute of Physics, and Roland Strausz, professor at the Faculty of Economic Sciences, receive ERC Advanced Grants, which come with funding of four million euros. In the project "GraWFTy - High-Precision Gravitational Wave Physics from a Worldline Quantum Field Theory", the gravitational waves emitted when two black holes or neutron stars meet in our universe are determined with the highest precision. The project "PRIVDIMA-Data Privacy in Digital Markets" deals with the regulation of data protection measures in digital markets.

[Learn more about projects and funding](#)

### Awarded: Communicator Award goes to Steffen Mau

HU sociologist Steffen Mau receives this year's Communicator Award. The award, which is endowed with 50,000 euros, is presented annually by the German Research Foundation and the Donors' Association. The jury was impressed by the fact that Mau "tries to bring objectivity into heated public discourse with a variety of formats". He avoids "the steep thesis or the limelight", the jury said in its statement.

[Read more about Steffen Mau](#)

## New official Bulletins

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